

A scenic view of Monroe Lake at sunset. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of blue, orange, and yellow. The water of the lake is calm, reflecting the light from the sky. In the foreground, there is a rocky shoreline with large, flat stones. A white rectangular text box is positioned in the upper right corner of the image.

OUTDOORS & RECREATION

The rolling hills, dense tree canopy, and limestone outcroppings are fundamental parts of the culture of this community. Dreams blossom among the towering tulip trees and spirits are rejuvenated on the waters of Monroe Lake. But life is about balance: it's not all meditations in nature, it's also action. Bike the trails, take a few swings on the golf course, or cheer for the Hoosiers during a home game (a participatory activity, to be sure).

LAKES

GRIFFY LAKE NATURE PRESERVE

109-acre lake and over 10 miles of natural trails. No swimming. Non-motorized boats or electric trolling motors only.
3300 N. Headley Rd.; 812-349-3732;
bloomington.in.gov/griffylake

LAKE LEMON

1,650-acre lake with marina, boat ramp, and swimming beach.
7599 N. Tunnel Rd.; 812-334-0233;
lakelemon.org

MONROE LAKE

10,750-acre lake with boating, swimming, hiking, camping, hunting, and fishing, plus programs and special events.
Monroe Lake Office:
4850 S. State Rd. 446; 812-837-9546;
Paynetown Activity Center & Naturalist's Office: 812-837-9967;
in.gov/dnr/parklake/2954.htm or
facebook.com/monroelake

MARINAS & BOAT RENTALS

GRIFFY LAKE BOATHOUSE

Rent canoes, kayaks, and rowboats. Ramp available for privately owned non-motorized boats. No swimming.
3300 N. Headley Rd.; 812-349-3732;
bloomington.in.gov/griffylake

LAKE MONROE BOAT RENTAL

Pontoons/slides, ski boats, jet skis, fishing boats, canoes, kayaks, and SUPs.
Paynetown State Recreation Area;
812-837-9909; lakemonroeboatrental.com

LAKE MONROE MARINA

Party boat and pontoon rentals, plus gas service and convenience store.
5505 E. State Rd. 446 (at Cutright State Recreation Area); 812-837-9394;
lakemonroemarina.com

PARADISE RENTAL BOATS

The boat you need to complete your family "staycation." At *Fourwinds Lakeside Inn & Marina;*
800-824-BOAT(2628);
fourwindslakeside.com

FORESTS & WILDERNESS AREAS

BEANBLOSSOM BOTTOMS

A bottomland hardwood forest with unusual species; great for bird watching. Accessible from *Bottom Rd. & Woodall Rd.;* 812-336-5382;
nature.org/indiana

CEDAR BLUFF NATURE PRESERVE

Challenging terrain and scenic views make it a Hoosier favorite. *Just off Ketcham Rd.;* 317-951-8818;
nature.org/indiana

CHARLES C. DEAM WILDERNESS AREA

13,000-acre protected wilderness area for camping and hiking in solitude. Accessible from *State Rd. 446;* 812-275-5987; fs.fed.us/r9/hoosier

HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST

202,000 acres with miles of trails for hiking, biking, camping, and more. Access from *State Rd. 446;* 812-275-5987; fs.usda.gov/hoosier

LEONARD SPRINGS NATURE PARK

95.5-acre park with caves (no admission), springs, wetland, and one-mile loop trail.
4685 S. Leonard Springs Rd.;
812-349-3700

MORGAN-MONROE STATE FOREST

24,000-acre forest with camping, hunting, and three lakes for fishing.
6220 Forest Rd.; 765-342-4026;
in.gov/dnr

SYCAMORE LAND TRUST

Hosts hiking events and manages free public nature preserves. *Throughout Monroe County, see website for details;* 812-336-5382;
sycamorelandtrust.org

YELLOWWOOD STATE FOREST

Features a 133-acre lake, fishing, hiking, camping, and hunting.
772 Yellowwood Lake Rd.;
812-988-7945; in.gov/dnr

BIRDING

MUSCATATUCK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The restle unit is a 78-acre refuge with great bird watching. Accessible from *Bottom Rd. & Woodall Rd.;* 812-522-4352; fws.gov/refuge/muscatatuck

STILLWATER-NORTH FORK WATERFOWL RESTING AREA

Great bird watching in Monroe Lake area.
State Rd. 46 & Kent Rd.; 812-349-2800; in.gov/dnr

HUNTING & FISHING

For specific information on areas that are available to the public for hunting and fishing in the Bloomington area, please contact the Bloomington Visitors Center at 800-800-0037. For current state regulations on hunting and fishing, see the Indiana Department of Natural Resources website at in.gov/dnr.

CAMPGROUNDS

BLACKWELL HORSE CAMP

Overnight camping area for equestrians and their horses.
Located within the Deam Wilderness, on Tower Ridge Rd.; 812-275-5987

HARDIN RIDGE STATE RECREATION AREA

Boat ramp, RV and primitive camping, hiking, beach, and shower facilities.
6464 Hardin Ridge Rd.; 812-837-9453; recreation.gov

HICKORY RIDGE HORSE CAMP

Primitive campground specifically designed for horse camping.
Located within the Hoosier National Forest, off State Rd. 446; 812-275-5987

HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST

Primitive camping throughout the forest, plus limited RV camping.
Accessible from State Rd. 446; 812-275-5987; fs.usda.gov/hoosier

JELLYSTONE PARK AT LAKE MONROE

A family-oriented resort with RV camping, cabins, water zone, pools, and activities.
9396 S. Strain Ridge Rd.; 812-824-3322; lakemonroejellystone.com

LAKE MONROE VILLAGE

RV hookups, cabins, and resort amenities for the whole family.
8107 S. Fairfax Rd.; 812-824-CAMP(2267); lakemonroevillage.com

PAYNETOWN STATE RECREATION AREA

Boat ramp, RV and primitive camping, hiking, beach, marina, and shower facilities.
4850 State Rd. 446; 812-837-9490 or 812-837-9546; indiana.reserveworld.com

TOURS & RENTALS

BICYCLE GARAGE

Full-service bicycle store and repair shop with bike rentals.
507 E. Kirkwood Ave.; 812-339-3457; bikegarage.com

BLUESPRING CAVERNS PARK

Explore the heart of our natural underground world by boat.
1459 Bluespring Caverns Rd.; 812-279-9471; bluespringcaverns.com

INDIGO BIRDING TOURS

Customized tours to the beautiful natural areas in south-central Indiana.
812-679-8978; indigobirding.com

IU OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

IUOA is Indiana's comprehensive outdoor equipment outfitter and trip provider.
Eigenmann Hall, 1900 E. 10th St., Room 020; 812-855-2231; iu.indiana.edu/iuoa

MISGUIDED TOURS

Tour Bloomington. It's comedy, history, mystery, and accidentally educational.
For reservations: 812-320-2002; misguidedme.com

MOST HIGH ADVENTURE OUTFITTERS

Kayak, canoe, and biking tours for families and groups.
6640 N. Old State Rd. 37; 812-340-0700; soilandwater.com/mosthigh

NATURAL BLOOMINGTON

Sharing Southern Indiana's natural beauty through image, prose, and ecotourism.
812-929-2430; naturalbloomington.com

PEDEGO ELECTRIC BIKES

Open daily until 5:30pm (Mon. by appt.) for sale, rentals, and tours.
224 N. College Ave.; 812-287-7764; pedegobloomington.com

REVOLUTION BIKE & BEAN

High-end bike sales and specialized fitting, plus bike rentals by the day or week.
401 E. 10th St.; 812-336-0241; revolutionbikeandbean.com

SALT CREEK CYCLES

Sales, rental, and servicing bike shop with an emphasis on mountain biking.
235 W. Dodds St., Suite 101; 812-334-2453; saltcreekcycles.com

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENTS

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Offering a wide variety of parks, recreation facilities, trails, and programs. Call for a complete schedule.
Offices: 401 N. Morton St., Suite 250; 812-349-3700; bloomington.in.gov/parks

MONROE COUNTY

Providing several parks, trails, and unique recreation facilities.
Offices: 501 N. Morton St., Suite 100; 812-349-2800; mcparksandrec.org

BIKING & WALKING TRAILS

There are many miles of trails located within the forests and nature preserves as well. See previous listings for more ideas.

B-LINE TRAIL

3.1-mile paved trail through downtown Bloomington; no motorized vehicles.
Downtown Bloomington; 812-349-3700; bloomington.in.gov/parks

BLOOMINGTON RAIL TRAIL

2-mile gravel trail with multiple trailheads; no motorized vehicles.
Trailheads at W. Country Club Rd. and Church Ln.; 812-349-3700; bloomington.in.gov/parks



B-LINE TRAIL

CLEAR CREEK TRAIL

2.4-mile paved trail with multiple trailheads; no motorized vehicles. *Trailhead at W. Country Club Rd.; 812-349-3700; bloomington.in.gov/parks*

KARST FARM GREENWAY

A 3.5 mile paved trail in western Monroe County. *Trailhead at Karst Farm Park, 2450 S. Endwright Rd.; 812-349-2800; mcparksandrec.org*

WAPEHANI MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK

More than five miles of dirt trails. The park will be temporarily closed for 3-6 months for the removal of Weimer Dam. *3401 W. Wapehani Rd.; 812-349-3700; bloomington.in.gov/parks*

SPORTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

The best athletic competitions in central Indiana. Check the calendar or website for current schedules. *866-IU-SPORTS (487-7678); iuhoosiers.com*

ANDY MOHR FIELD

The beautiful stadium that serves as home to the IU softball team. *1873 N. Fee Ln.*

BART KAUFMAN FIELD

The site of all IU Baseball home games. *1873 N. Fee Ln.*

BILL ARMSTRONG STADIUM

Home of Indiana soccer and the famous Little 500 bike races. *1606 N. Fee Ln.*

HAUGH TRACK & FIELD COMPLEX

One of the country's finest outdoor track and field facilities. *1606 N. Fee Ln.*

MEMORIAL STADIUM

The home of IU Football and birthplace for Indiana traditions. *1001 E. 17th St.*

SIMON SKJODT ASSEMBLY HALL & COOK HALL

Headquarters for the men's and women's basketball teams. Tours available. *1001 E. 17th St.*

STUDENT RECREATIONAL SPORTS CENTER

Strength and cardio areas, Olympic pool, multiple courts, track, and group exercise spaces. Guest passes available. *1601 Law Ln.; 812-855-7772; recsports.indiana.edu*

TENNIS CENTER

Indoor tennis membership facility serving students, faculty, and staff. *1833 N. Fee Ln.; 812-855-5750; indiana.edu/~tnscntr*

TWIN LAKES RECREATION CENTER

Sports, recreation, and fitness facility for members and day users. *1700 W. Bloomfield Rd.; 812-349-3720; bloomington.in.gov/trc*

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CHARLES C. DEAM WILDERNESS AREA

WILDERMUTH INTRAMURAL CENTER

Strength and cardio areas, Olympic pool, multiple courts, track, and group exercise spaces. Guest passes available. 1025 E. 7th St.; 812-855-5222; recsports.indiana.edu

SPECIALTY RECREATION

BLOOMINGTON SPEEDWAY

One of Indiana's best dirt tracks, with races every Friday night in the summer. 5185 S. Fairfax Rd.; 812-824-7400; bloomingtonspeedway.com

BLUETIP BILLIARDS

Enjoy billiards, food, beer, and fun at this family-friendly pool hall. 426 S. College Ave.; 812-278-7608; bluetipbilliards.com

CLASSIC LANES BOWLING CENTER

Thirty-two lanes, plus billiards, arcade games, concessions, and lounge. 1421 N. Willis Dr.; 812-332-6689; classiclanesin.com

CODE AND KEY ESCAPE ROOMS

Find clues, solve puzzles, and get out in 60 minutes. 101 W. Kirkwood Ave., Suite 113; 812-214-1497; codeandkeyescaperooms.com

ENIGMA PUZZLE HOUSE

Solve mysteries, crack codes, and have fun at Bloomington's first escape room. 2660 E. 2nd St.; 812-217-8761; enigmapuzzlehouse.com

FRANK SOUTHERN ICE ARENA

Open October through March with public skating daily. Admission charged. 2100 S. Henderson St.; 812-349-3740; bloomington.in.gov/parks

GLOW GOLF

Miniature golf course that glows in the dark, plus a laser maze. Inside College Mall, 2806 E. 3rd St.; 812-323-3400; opryglowgolf.com

HOOSIER HEIGHTS

Indoor climbing facility with rental gear, instruction, and challenges for all skill levels. 5100 S. Rogers St.; 812-824-6414; hoosierheights.com/bloomington

JUMP-N-JOEY'S

Bouncing, sliding, and jumping fun for children 12 years old and younger. 108 N. Curry Pike; 812-822-1947; jumpatjoey.com

KIDS PLAY GYM

The ultimate interactive play experience for children 10 years old and younger. 2010 S. Yost Ave.; 812-822-0605; kidsplaygym.com

LASERLITE LASER TAG

Laser tag and one of Bloomington's largest arcades. 4505 E. 3rd St.; 812-337-0456; lazertagandfun.com

LOCKED UP

Theme-based, interactive escape room games. 933 N. Walnut St.; 812-307-8771; lockeduplive.com

NINJA DISTRICT

Parkour classes, group friendly archery games, and indoor ax throwing. 611 W. 11th St.; 812-822-2951; theninjadistrict.com

PUTTERS PARK MINI GOLF

Classic miniature golf course plus on-site restaurant. 4747 W. State Rd. 46; 812-876-8447

UPPER CASCADES SKATE PARK

Concrete ramps, rails, and other terrain for use by skateboards and in-line skaters. 2602 N. Kinser Pike; 812-349-3712; bloomington.in.gov/parks

URBAN AIR TRAMPOLINE PARK

Indoor trampoline park with open jump, Warrior course, slam dunk ball, and more. 3603 W. State Rd. 46; 812-727-8309; urbanairbloomington.com

WESTERN SKATELAND

Classic roller skating rink, with skate rental available. 930 W. 17th St.; 812-332-7288; westernskateland.ws

GOLF

CASCADES GOLF COURSE

A 27-hole course that's fun, fair, and fast to play. 3550 N. Kinser Pike; 812-349-3764; bloomington.in.gov/cascades

TAYLORS' PAR 3

Family-owned course welcomes all ages and skill levels. 4975 N. State Rd. 37 Business; 812-330-8611; taylorspar3.com

SWIMMING & WATER PARKS

BRYAN PARK POOL

Pool and waterslides open Memorial Day through Labor Day. 1020 S. Woodlawn Ave.; 812-349-3741; bloomington.in.gov/parks

IU OUTDOOR POOL

Ten-lane, Olympic-size pool, separate diving well, instructional pool. 1833 N. Fee Ln.; 812-855-9584; indiana.edu/~iuop

JELLYSTONE PARK AT LAKE MONROE

Water zone with slides and sprays, plus swimming pools. 9396 S. Strain Ridge Rd.; 812-824-3322; lakemonroejellystone.com

KARST FARM PARK SPLASH PAD

Zero-depth water features that are fun for the entire family. Free! 2450 S. Endwright Rd.; 812-349-2800; mcparksandrec.org

MILLS POOL

Activity pool for small children, water basketball, and waterslide. 1100 W. 14th St.; 812-349-3741; bloomington.in.gov/parks

SWIMMING BEACHES

See lake listings for directions. Monroe Lake: Paynetown SRA, Fairfax SRA and Hardin Ridge Recreation Area; Lake Lemon: Riddle Point Park



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Explore America's longest navigable underground river aboard our custom electric tour boats, enjoy our 1/2 mile nature trail surrounding Indiana's largest sinkhole, prospect for gemstones at the "Mystery River Gemstone Mine, shop our unique gift shop in the Colglazier Visitor Center....enjoy the day.

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